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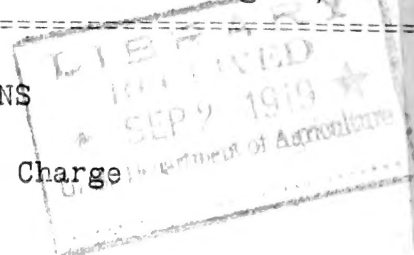
MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 64

August, 1919

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomological Assistant Acting in Charge



F. C. Bishopp spent a large part of the month traveling in Arizona with the Arizona "Live Stock Squad." Public meetings and demonstrations were held in various parts of the State in the interest of the live stock industry. He reports a very successful trip.

D. L. Van Dine, having received his discharge from the Army, was reinstated in this branch of the Bureau on August 4. He returns to the malaria mosquito work at Mound, La.

M. R. Smith has resigned as agent of this Bureau in South Carolina. G. M. Anderson has been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Smith's resignation.

J. D. Smith has resigned from the Bureau effective August 31. He was employed in tobacco insect investigations at Clarksville, Tenn.

E. R. Barber has returned to his station in New Orleans after spending several months in Cuba collecting parasites of the sugar cane moth borer for shipment to the United States.

Prof. S. T. Howard, formerly of Clemson College, S. C., has been appointed as mechanical engineer on the boll weevil force at Tallulah, La.

The following temporary employees have been added to the boll weevil force: G. D. Dorrah, J. H. Huff, C. P. Smith.

The temporary appointment of G. L. Lott has been terminated.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge

R. L. Nougaret, in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Fresno, Cal., where investigations of grape insects were under way, has resigned from the service to accept the position of head viticulturist of the California State Horticultural Commission.

Wm. O. Ellis, who has been engaged in life-history studies of the Japanese beetle at Riverton, N. J., has been transferred to the Office of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations, and will be engaged in European corn borer work under the direction of W. R. Walton.

F. L. Simanton, formerly in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Benton Harbor, Mich., and who has been assisting Mr. John B. Gill in connection with pecan insect investigations at Monticello, Fla., has been transferred to the Office of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations, and assigned to duty at Centuria, Ill., on Hessian fly work.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

- Butler, E. J. The rice worm (*Tylenchus angustus*) and its control. 37 pp., pl., map. Calcutta, pub. for the Imperial Dept. of Agriculture in India, by Thacker, Spink, & Co., 1919. (India Dept. of Agr. Memoirs. Botanical series, vol. 10, No. 1.)
- Cook, M.T. Applied economic botany, based upon actual agricultural and gardening projects. 261 pp., illus. Philadelphia (London) J.B. Lippincott Co., 1919. (Lippincott's Farm Life text ser. ed. by K.C. Davis.)
- Edwardes, Ticksaer. The bee-master of Warrilow. 64 pp., pl. London, the "Pall Mall" press, 1907.
- Hawley, I.M. Insects injurious to the hop in New York, with special reference to the hop grub and the hop redbug. Ithaca, 1918. (N.Y. (State)-Cornell agricultural experiment station, Ithaca, Memoir 15).
- Hedrick, U.P. Manual of American grape-growing. xiii, 458 pp., illus. 32 pl. New York, The Macmillan Co., 1919. (The Rural Manuals, ed. by L.H. Bailey.) Grape pests and their control, pp. 204-229.
- Herrod-Hempsell, W. Bee-keeping in war-time. 32 pp. (London) New York, 1918.
- Kerbosch, M., and Bernard, Ch. Mitjen-aantastingen op kina, thee enz. 16 pp., 7 pl. Batavia, 1918. (Med. van het Kina proefstation No. IV (Dutch East Indies).
- Langstroth, L.L. Langstroth on the hive and honey bee, rev. by Dadant. 575 pp., illus., 28 pl. 20th ed. Hamilton, Ill., 1919.
- Lloyd, Ll. Lice and their menace to man ... with a chapter on trench fever, By Major W. Byam.... xii, 136, pp., illus., diags. London, H. Frowde; Hodder & Stoughton, 1919. "References" at end of most of the chapters.
- Miyake, Tsunekata, Studies on the fruit flies of Japan. p. 85-165, illus., 10 pl. Nishigahara, Tokio, Feb., 1919. (Bul. Imper. Cent. Agr. Exp. Sta. Japan, vol. 2, No. 2.)
- Moore, William, and Hirschfelder, A.D. An Investigation of the louse problem. 86 pp., illus., Minneapolis. Pub. by the university of Minnesota, July, 1919. (Research publications of the University of Minnesota, ~~XXX~~, 1919. ~~(Research publications of the University of Minnesota, vol. 8, No. 4 (Studies in the Biological sciences No. 3.))~~
- Pratt, H.S. A manual of the common invertebrate animals exclusive of Insects. 737 pp., illus., Chicago, A.C. McClurg & Co., 1916.
- Roeding, G.C. Roeding's fruit grower's guide. 97 pp., illus. Fresno, Cal., 1919.

Schryver, S.B. An introduction to the study of biological chemistry. 340 P., illus London, 1918.

Western adjustment and inspection Co., Chicago. Losses to cotton....46 pp., illus. Chicago, Hail department, Western Adjustment and Inspection Co. (1919)

FOREST ENTOMOLOGY.

A. D. Hopkins, Forest Entomologist.

J.C. Evenden formerly entomological ranger and during the war captain in Company G. 363 Infantry with the American Expeditionary Forces, in France, has returned to the Branch of Forest Entomology as scientific assistant and is stationed at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, under general direction of F.C. Miller.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

C. L. Marlatt, Entomologist in Charge.

Mr. C.A. Weigel is in Florida making a preliminary investigation of the camphor thrips situation. A permanent assistant is to be assigned to this project in the near future.

H.F. Dietz has returned from the Canal Zone where he has been conducting research and experimental work for the past year, and is now engaged in preparing a report in this country.

A. D. Borden recently visited the Imperial Valley to investigate the present status of Phoenicococcus marlatti infesting date palms.

M. A. Wei gel and E.L. Chambers have just completed some successful experiments in controlling the adult of the grape rootworm which appeared in great numbers in a local greenhouse damaging roses.

FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

C. L. Marlatt, Chairman.

A hearing on the subject of the European corn borer was conducted at Boston, Mass., on August 15. The Board was represented by the Chairman, and George B. Sudworth, Karl F. Kellerman, R.C. Althouse, and H.W. Syfrig. There were present representatives from the neighboring States and the hearing was also largely attended by local truck growers, ornamental horticulturists, and commission men from Boston. Action on this hearing is held awaiting the general conference on the European corn borer called to meet at Albany, N.Y., and at Boston, August 28 and 29 respectively. This conference was also attended by the Chairman of the Board. It developed at these two conferences that the spread of the corn borer is such and the food needs of the several New England States are such as to make it seem desirable to include in a general quarantine New England and New York with respect to this insect and if possible to have modified Quarantine with this territory to take care of the areas definitely known to be infested.

The Chairman of the Board also attended and addressed on August 21, the American Society of Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists at their annual meeting in Detroit. The subject was Federal Plant Quarantine Act and especially Quarantine No. 37.

R.K. Beattie is in Texas making preparations to take over the fumigation of railway cars and vehicles on September 15.

C. A. Bennett and J. Monteith, Jr., recently visited New York to study the condition, as regards insects and diseases, of foreign bulbs which have been arriving in large numbers during the past month.

H. B. Shaw of New York was in Washington on August 3 and 4 on official business.

Lester E. Palmer, who has for the past two years been in charge in the Federal Horticultural Board of the enforcement of regulations and restrictions governing the entry of foreign plants and plant products under regulation, has resigned. Mr. Palmer has been a very efficient officer and his departure is a distinct loss to the Board.

J. G. Sanders, Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture, who is a collaborator of this Board, has been commissioned by this Department, at the instance of the Board, to make an exploration of potato wart conditions in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland to become better acquainted with the various phases of the problem for the control of this disease as it has been worked out in these countries. He is expected to return early in September.

The use of the aeroplane for scouting for the pink bollworm has been reported in previous issues of the Monthly Letter. This work has recently received a serious setback as a result of a fatal accident which happened on August 7, in which both Lieutenant Tillisch, pilot, and E.L. Diven, the technical observer of the Board, lost their lives. These flights have been conducted for a considerable period without serious accident. The danger of this service was fully recognized, but it was hoped the Board's record would be a clean one, except as to accidents of the minor character. Both Lieutenant Tillisch and Mr. Diven were men of high character and undertook the work with a full realization of the personal risk. Mr. Diven, who had been in the service of the Board for over a year, was an especially earnest and capable man and his promise for future usefulness was very high. His death is a great loss to the service.

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge.

From the eradication project of the sweet-potato weevil control campaign at Macclenny, Fla., continued progress is reported. Four new

fumigation houses are being erected at such points as will permit the legal disposition of potatoes from the infested areas. These will assist materially in securing practical data as to fumigation and other methods for the treatment of stored sweet potatoes. Two automobile trucks have been purchased for this work, which will soon be in effective operation. At the Daytona station, a complete study of the wild host-plant problem is being undertaken and a host-plant survey of Volusia County, in three natural zones, is under way. Methods of host-plant eradication, especially with reference to the seaside morning-glory, will be tested in this area. On the east coast of Florida, a break in the morning-glory band along the beach, north of which the vines are apparently weevil-free, but which is rapidly becoming reseeded, will be maintained by periodical patrol.

A.E. Mallory, engaged in the Truck Crop Insect Investigations at Greeley, Colo., has resigned to enter educational work.

H.K. Laramore, in charge of the Truck Crop Insect Laboratory at Plymouth, Ind., has resigned to enter commercial work.

M.M. High, in charge of Sweet-potato Weevil Investigations in Texas, will visit points in the interior of Mexico for the purpose of securing parasites of the sweet-potato weevil for introduction into the United States.

C.F. Stahl, engaged in Sugar Beet Insect Investigations in California reports almost complete injury of sugar beets by the curly-top leafhopper in Riverside County.

AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL REGULATIONS.

Effective August 1, 1919, sections (p) and (q) of Paragraph 83, and section (e) of Paragraph 86, of the Fiscal Regulations, as amended by Memorandum No. 271, dated April 1, 1919, are hereby further amended to read as follows:

Paragraph 83:

(p) Street-car, transfer-coach, omnibus, cab, carriage, and taxicab fares, in amounts not exceeding locally prevailing rates, except when incurred between place of lodging, or where meals are taken, and place where duty is to be performed (see section i): Provided, That where duty is performed at more than one place on any one day, street-car or other fares may be allowed between such places of duty: Provided also, That satisfactory explanations as to necessity accompany charges for taxicab or other means of transportation more expensive than street-cars: Provided, however, That an employee may properly choose his residence in a suburb of his official station, and personal transfers will be allowed between such residence and the depot at his official station at the beginning and termination of official travel. Payments in excess of 50 cents due to higher locally prevailing rates must be explained in writing;

(q) Transfer of baggage at locally prevailing rates for one

piece of personal baggage, and for each additional piece of baggage containing Government property or private property for Government use: Provided, however, That an employee may properly choose his residence in a suburb of his official station, and transfers of baggage will be allowed between such residence and the depot at his official station at the beginning and termination of official travel. (For rates in the District of Columbia, see Appendix G.) Payments in excess of 50 cents due to higher locally prevailing rates must be explained in writing;

Paragraph 86:

(e) Street-car, transfer-coach, omnibus, cab, carriage, or taxicab fares will be allowed for each personal transfer if the charge is not in excess of locally prevailing rates: Provided, That satisfactory explanations as to necessity accompany charges for taxicabs or other means of transportation more expensive than street cars. Tips to drivers or chauffeurs will not be allowed. Transfers of baggage at locally prevailing rates for one piece of personal baggage and for each additional piece of baggage containing Government property or private property for Government use will be allowed. (For rates in the District of Columbia, see Appendix G.) Every charge for baggage transfers included in reimbursement accounts must be supported by a statement indicating the kind of baggage transferred (whether hand bag, suit case, trunk, etc.) and the number of pieces. An employee may properly choose his residence in a suburb of his official station, and personal transfers and transfers of baggage will be allowed between such residence and the depot at his official station at the beginning and termination of official travel. Payments in excess of 50 cents for personal transfers and transfers of baggage must be explained in writing. Personal transfers and transfers of baggage between hotels will be allowed only when satisfactorily explained. Storage charges on baggage to avoid frequent transfers may be allowed when properly explained.

Effective Sept. 2, 1919, section (j) of Paragraph 86 of the Fiscal Regulations (amended by Memorandum No. 281.), are hereby amended to read as follows:

86. ACTUAL TRAVELING EXPENSES DEFINED.

(g) Except as provided in Paragraph 86 (v), special conveyance, such as livery, or the hire of a boat, bicycle, motorcycle, or automobile, may be employed when no public or regular means of transportation are available, or when such public or regular means of transportation can not be used as advantageously in the interest of the Government. Employees using their own vehicles in official work in accordance with Paragraph 214, of the Administrative Regulations must, in the case of motor-propelled vehicles, unless granted reimbursement for such use at mileage rates (not exceeding 3 cents per mile for a motorcycle and 7 cents per mile for an automobile), support each account covering operating charges by a certificate setting forth the fact that the charge for gasoline and oil was arrived at by actual measurement at both

the beginning and end of the official trip. The mileage of each trip should also be plainly stated. In addition to actual operating charge or mileage rates (not exceeding 3 cents per mile for a motorcycle and 7 cents per mile for an automobile) allowed in lieu of actual operating charges, employees using their own motor-propelled vehicles in official work may be reimbursed for storage charges when storage becomes necessary at points other than official or temporary headquarters. Where it becomes necessary by reason of breakdowns, impassable roads, or miring to have vehicles towed partly, or, under extraordinary circumstances, entirely to destination, reimbursement may be made for reasonable expense of such towage, but all such charges must be fully explained, and each case will be considered on its merits. No allowance or reimbursement will be made for the cost of repairs or replacements to any vehicle, or for towage of same to any place for the purpose of having repairs made. If, however, it is possible to have the vehicle repaired at a place on the direct route to destination, towage charges to such place will not be construed as incurred primarily for that purpose and may, as herein provided, be allowed.

-----BUY W.S.S.-----

" Savings Division,
Treasury Department.

The people in many parts of the United States are virtually in league with the profiteers, according to William Mather Lewis, Director of the Savings Division of the Treasury Department, who has returned to Washington after visiting the various Federal Reserve Districts.

"A veritable orgy of extravagant buying is going on," he said. "The reaction from the careful use of money during war time is widespread and disturbing. - Retailers are securing goods from jobbers without arguing about prices, if they can only be assured of immediate delivery. They know their customers will scramble for the goods, regardless of cost. Thus, with an abnormal demand and a limited output, nothing else can be expected than high prices. It is a natural though deplorable consequence that profiteers abound.

"The people must return to the policy of careful buying and regular saving if they wish to help the situation. The Treasury Department in order to combat this artificial situation, is intensifying and speeding up its thrift campaign. Statements on the principles of finance and the laws of investment, and budgetry are being brought to workers in factories, to farmers, to business and professional men, and members of women's organizations by means of printed publicity and the spoken word. A nationwide attack upon swindlers who are persuading people to dispose of their Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps is also being inaugurated.

"Throughout New England, savings and thrift organizations already are exerting their combined efforts to combat increased cost of the necessities of life. Savings directors and hundreds of officers of Savings Societies are taking the lead in disseminating information as to fair prices.

"In their communities they are aiding the determination and publication of fair prices and in curbing unjust profits. They are following the plan of campaign recently outlined by Governor W.P.C. Harding of the Federal Reserve Board, to promote regular and efficient work, to increase production and insure reasonable economies, to devote that production to necessities rather than to extravagances or luxuries.

"Steps are being taken to insure similar efforts throughout the other Federal Reserve Districts."

-----BUY W.S.S.-----